THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 3rd March 1955.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Accidents due to lighting of crackers.

* 218[a] *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention has been drawn to the number of accidents which had taken place in the State due to lighting of crackers; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to avoid such accidents in future?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The matter will be considered by the Government."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI:—" Sir, have the Government issued instructions to wholesale or retail dealers who may be in possession of such crackers just to dispose them of without selling them? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" We cannot issue any instructions like that. We can only place restrictions on storage of these crackers. I do not think we can issue any instructions that they should be disposed of in a particular way."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI:—" In view of the fact that crackers called atom bombs and the material that is scratched on the ground to produce some sound like Chada-Chada, are very risky to public health and risky to children, will the Government issue a notification even now sufficiently in advance to prevent the manufacture of these two articles long before Deepavali and if necessary ban them? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" This question is being examined."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN:—" Sir, will the Government consider the possibility of preventing the manufacture of certain kinds of crackers that are likely to produce very intense sound? Is there any separate Act preventing this? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" This question requires examination of the legal complications involved in it. As soon as the examination is over, we shall take action."

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[a] Question postponed from the list of questions for 2nd March 1955.

Admission to Government and Government Aided Colleges in the State.

* 219 [a] Q.—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students belonging to the backward communities who were admitted during the years 1953–54 and 1954–55 in Government and Government aided colleges in the State; and

(b) whether the students belonging to the backward communities are given any special consideration in the matter of admission to Government and Government aided colleges and hostels?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (a) The information is not readily available and it is considered that the time and labour involved in collecting the particulars may not be commensurate with the public purpose to be served.

" (b) 25 per cent of the seats in the Government Arts and Professional colleges are reserved for candidates belonging to backward classes other than Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The number of the students belonging to the above categories who are admitted on the basis of merit is not counted against the quota reserved for them. Though this reservation does not strictly apply to non-Government colleges, the managements of such aided colleges have been requested and they are expected to extend their fullest co-operation in the matter of encouraging the higher education of these backward classes consistently with the attitude adopted by the Government in respect of admissions to Government colleges. There is no specific reservation made for the backward classes in regard to admission to hostels."

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether all this reservation has to be made merely because we do not have a sufficient number of colleges?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" It will take a long time to have a sufficient number of colleges to admit all the students who are prepared to go to the University class."

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI:—" Will it be possible at least in the course of a few years for the Government to bring into existence a large number of colleges so that this problem may not at all arise and give us trouble?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" With reference to arts colleges it may be possible. But with reference to professional colleges, the number has to be limited. It has to be limited to the requirements of the country, in which case there is bound to be competition for admission into these professional colleges."

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[a] Question postponed from the list of questions for 2nd March 1955.

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Construction of a flood bank near Cuddalore.

* 220 *Q.*—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was a proposal in 1945–46 to construct a flood bank in between Gadilam and Pennar rivers near Cuddalore to avert the danger to the town by flood; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon and at what stage it is at present?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) There was no such proposal in 1945–46. But a proposal was initiated in 1947.

" (*b*) The proposal was deferred in 1951 on account of the poor finances of the State at that time. The proposal has since been revived and the Government are awaiting a report from the Chief Engineer."

New canal from Tiruvendipuram Anicut to Kondangi Lake Cuddalore.

* 221 *Q.*—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount sanctioned by the Government to dig a new canal from Thiruvendipuram anicut (Asiperiyamkuppam) to Kondangi lake, Cuddalore;

(*b*) whether the work has been taken up for execution;

(*c*) if so, when it will be completed; and

(*d*) whether there is any proposal to deepen the Kondangi lake as well?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) A scheme for diversion of the Kondangi tank supply channel from M-2—F-4 of the Thiruvendipuram main channel to first above the road culvert at M3 F3 by about 40 feet has been sanctioned under the Special Minor Irrigation Programme at an estimated cost of Rs. 20,000 for works.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) Expected to be completed by 31st March 1955.

" (*d*) There is no proposal at present to silt-clear the tank."

Sri M. ETHIRAJULU :—" இரண்டு மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னதாக அந்த வாய்க்கால் வெட்டப்பட்டுவந்து இப்பொழுது திடீரென்று நிறுத்தப்பட்டதற்குக் காரணம் என்ன என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பார்களா ? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The work is expected to be completed by 31st March 1955."

Appointment of gem and gold jewellery examiner and Stapathi.

* 222 *Q.*—Sri T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR : With reference to the answers to question No. 73 answered on the 18th January 1954 and the supplementary question thereon, will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action the Government have taken to preserve the class of Stapathis who are experts in temple architecture;

(*b*) whether the Government have sanctioned the appointment of (1) gem and gold jewellary examiner, and (2) a stapathi to look after the temple architecture under the Hindu Religious Endowments Department;

(*c*) if so, (i) whether the Government have filled up these posts;

(ii) the names, age, qualifications and past experience of the persons appointed to these posts; and

(iii) whether these posts were duly advertised in the newspapers?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) The Government have under consideration the question of preparation of a list of able Sthapathis who may be consulted by the authorities of the temple whenever necessary.

" (*b*) The Government have sanctioned the posts of a Gem specialist, a Sthapathi and a Goldsmith in connection with the scheme of appraisement and verification of jewels and other valuables of religious institutions.

" (*c*) (i) Yes.

(ii) A statement [*] is placed on the table of the House.

(iii) No."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I ask, Sir, whether these posts of Gem specialist, Goldsmith specialist, and Stapathi are permanent posts and whether any conditions of service have been prescribed in regard to these posts? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" We have fixed their salaries. Gem specialists are given Rs. 300 per mensem. Stapathi is given Rs. 150 per mensem. The Goldsmith is given Rs. 100 per mensem. There is one Verification Officer who is in the grade of Rs. 250–50/2–500."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Gem specialist has to handle valuable articles of jewellery, may I know whether the Government have taken any deposit from him as security? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I have no information with me now. A separate question may be put."

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[*] Printed as Appendix on page 494 infra.

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" With reference to clause (*b*) (iii) of the question, may I know, Sir, whether these posts were advertised in the papers and applications called for? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There was a specialist who was available, and we thought that there was no need for advertising the post. The Government were sure that they might not be able to get a better person for the job."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" With reference to the post of the Stapathi, may I know why a gold and silver manufacturer has been appointed to this post? It is stated in the paper laid on the table of the House that this goldsmith was, before joining duty in the department, manufacturing gold and silver articles in the temples under the control of the Dharmapuram Adheenam."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" With regard to the Stapathi, we have been trying to get a suitable person. But the Government were not able to secure one for that particular post to which the hon. Member wants a person to be appointed. This jeweller is also attending to the work of the Stapathi."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know what procedure was adopted before the question of appointment of a full-time stapathi was taken up? Was there not an honorary Consulting Architect for the purpose? Why was that post abolished? " 3-10 p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government wanted to appoint a person from the municipal service. The Local Administration Department could not spare the services of a suitable Engineer for this purpose. Now, we are trying to get another Engineer from some other Department. Till then, we don't know whether we can take up this question."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether the Government will kindly consider the question of appointing an Honorary Consulting Architect with special knowledge of temple architecture as before? "

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Sir, I rise on a point of order. Usually, the convention is that a Member who puts the main question gets the first chance to put a supplementary as soon as the Hon. Minister gives his answer to the main question. But, now there has been a regular race as it were between the elderly gentleman Sri Achariar who has put the main question and the young and energetic Member Sri T. Purushotham. Sri Achariar was rising in his seat seven times to put a supplementary question. Unfortunately, all the seven times he has failed in the competition. Sri Purushotham is no doubt young and energetic.

I do not deny that. I think it will be better if the Chair itself calls the hon. Members one after another to put supplementary questions. If this is done, the advantage will be equally divided among all the Members in the House. Even the hon. Member sitting to my left failed to catch your eye even though he got up in his seat seven times, trying to put a supplementary. Sir, I think it will be possible for you to accede to my request."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, as I have already put a question, I request that the Hon. Minister may give his reply to it."

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, let me give a detailed answer. The sthapathi sanctioned for the work relating to appraisement of jewels and valuables attends to the work of appraisement of (1) silver articles and vessels, (2) gold and silver gilded articles and (3) gold or silver plated articles and vahanams. As for the appointment of an architect, I have already said we wanted to appoint some Municipal Engineer, but it was not possible. We are trying to get another engineer."

Sri T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR :—" In view of the fact that the ordinary engineers are not familiar with the work connected with temple building, may I know whether the Government will continue to appoint sthapathis and put them in charge of renovation of these temples? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member, Sir."

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" Sri Krishnamoorthi may put his supplementary, and it will be the last supplementary on the question."

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Have the Government any proposal to establish a training school to train people in temple architecture, Sir? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" No, Sir."

(Hon. Members Sri T. M. Daivasikhamani Achariar and Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar were seen rising in their seats.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" You must listen to the Chair. I have definitely said that Sri G. Krishnamoorthi's supplementary will be the last. We have taken a sufficiently long time over this question."

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" ஸ்தபதிகள் என்றால் கோபுரங்கள் கட்டும் நிபுணர்களா ? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" ஒரு கனம் அங்கத்தினர் சொன்னது போல அவர்கள் 'சிற்பிகள்' எனப்படுவார்கள்."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY THE GOVERNOR

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that the Madras Indebted Agriculturists (Repayment of Debts) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1955), which was passed by the Madras Legislature on the 24th February 1955, received the assent of the President on the 27th February 1955, and has been published as Act I of 1955 in Part IV-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette* (Extraordinary), dated the 1st March 1955."

III.—PETITION TO THE COUNCIL.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Mr. Chairman, under rule 182 of the Madras Council Rules, I present a petition addressed to the hon. Members of the Madras Legislative Council. This petition is from the Madras Provincial Coconut Producers' and Merchants' Association and it is signed by the President and Secretary of the Association. In this petition they have requested that coconuts may be exempted from the levy of sales tax."

(The hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham then presented the petition to the Secretary to the Council.)

IV.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1955-56—*cont.*

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. Chairman, I think you must be proud and this House must be proud that we have had a high-level discussion on the budget for the last three days and now we are on the fourth day of the discussion. Almost every hon. Member without an exception has made some contribution or other which I hope will be considered by the Government. Sir, the Government were complimented on the introduction of electricity in the rural parts and also on the provision of water-supply. They have also been complimented on the fee concession and exemption of certain perishables from sales tax. They have been complimented by everybody in the House who spoke on the subject. In this I include the warm supporters of the Government, Sri Alla Pichai and Sri Mohamed Usman and do not exclude Sri Bhashyam. (Sri K. Bhashyam : ' As I have welcomed some of the measures mentioned by you, you can include me there.') Yes. I have included him also. That apart, I would like to compliment the Government on another matter. Sir, an important feature in a budget is to see that the financial credit of the Government is kept up very high. I am pleased that the financial credit of the Government is kept up very high by the Government. The financial credit of the Madras Government is higher than that of any other State Government of India. This can be seen from the fact that when the Madras Government float some public loan it becomes oversubscribed. This itself is a great credit to the Government. I think the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam in his speech has also referred to the fact that the Government credit has been kept up. Sir, I fancy that it is to keep up the credit of the

Appendix.

[Vide answer to clause (c) (ii) of starred question No. 222 asked by Sri T. M. Daivasikhamani Achariar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd March 1955, page 446 supra.]

Name and designation (1)	*Age.* (2)	*Date from which holding the post.* (3)	*Qualification and experience.* (4)
1 Sri K. R. Sreedharulu, Gem Specialist.	56 years ..	13th July 1948 ..	He was a Diamond Merchant, and was dealing with precious gems for about 35 years, having direct purchases from European travellers and Diamond Merchants from Antwerp and Amsterdam. He was having his own workshop for jewel manufacture. He was also appraising valuable jewels confiscated by Government through the Chief Presidency Magistrate and Commissioner of Police. The Courts used to summon him for giving expert advice. He was one of the experts selected for valuing the Kreetam of Thirumalai-Tirupathi Devasthanams, Tirupathi.
2 Sri K. Eswara Achary, Goldsmith Specialist.	55 years ..	1st October 1948 ..	He has worked as a goldsmith for 40 years.
3 Sri S. Swaminatha Pathar, Sthapati.	33 years ..	3rd November 1948.	Before joining duty in this department, he was manufacturing gold and silver articles in the temples under the control of Dharmapuram Adheenam.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS